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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: May 14, 2004

Name: Scott W. Brim, Reg. No. 51,500

Signature:

Scott W. Brim

BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Patterson et al.

Appln. No.: 10/675,284

Filed: September 30, 2003

For: APPLIANCE FOR VACUUM SEALING
FOOD CONTAINERS

Attorney Docket No: 10367/2123

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ A Transmittal (in duplicate); First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449; 1 Reference; and Copy of Search Report.
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Small Entity.
- ☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(_____).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$9=			x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus			x 43=			x \$86=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$145=			+\$290=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

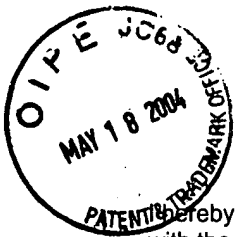
Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

5/14/04
Date

Respectfully submitted,

Scott W. Brim
Scott W. Brim (Reg. No. 51,500)



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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May 14, 2004
Date of Deposit

Scott W. Brim, Reg. No. 51,500
Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Scott W. Brim
Signature

5/14/04
Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 10367/2123

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Patterson et al.

Serial No.: 10/675,284

Filing Date: September 30, 2003

For: APPLIANCE FOR VACUUM
SEALING FOOD CONTAINERS

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit No.: To Be Assigned

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

No.	Date	Name
6,467,242 B2	10/22/2002	Huang

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

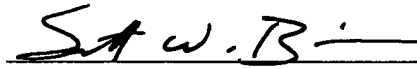
This application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Serial No. 10/371, 610, filed February 21, 2003 and is relied upon for an earlier filing dated under 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with Rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) only copies of documents not previously cited and submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior application Serial No. 10/371, 610 are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), Applicant(s) hereby certify that each item of the information disclosed in this First Supplemental Information Disclosure

Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report.

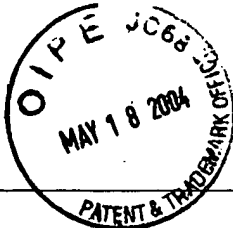
Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott W. Brim", is written over a horizontal line.

Scott W. Brim
Registration No. 51,500
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
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(312) 321-4200



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/675,284	CASE NO. 10367/2123
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE September 30, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT To Be Assigned
APPLICANT(S): Patterson et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	B1	6,467,242 B1	10/22/02	Huang		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS <small>(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.</small>	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.